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Senate

The Senate met at 1 p.m., and was called to order by the Honorable DAN COATS, a Senator from the State of Indiana.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's prayer will be offered by our guest Chaplain, Father Paul Lavin, pastor of St. Joseph's on Capitol Hill.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, Father Paul Lavin, offered the following prayer:

In the Book of Wisdom, Solomon prays: "God of my fathers, Lord of mercy, You who have made all things by Your word and in Your wisdom have established man to rule the creatures produced by You, to govern the world in holiness and justice, and to render judgment and integrity of heart, give me wisdom, the attendant at Your throne and reject me not from among Your children."

Let us pray:

Good and gracious God, give to the men and women of this Senate and to their staffs a share in Your wisdom. Let it be by the light of Your understanding that they see the real needs of our Nation and of the world. Let it be by the grace of Your courage that they each take the next best step in responding to those real needs. Share with us, O Lord, Your wisdom. We ask this in Your holy name. Amen.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore [Mr. Thurmond].

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, December 27, 1995.
To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, section 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable DAN COATS, a Senator from the State of Indiana, to perform the duties of the Chair.

STROM THURMOND,

President pro tempore.

 $\mbox{Mr.}$ COATS thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from New Hampshire is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, Senator DOLE has asked me to announce today that the Senate will be in only for a brief period this afternoon and that there will be no rollcall votes during today's session of the Senate.

The Senate will complete action on any legislative or executive matter that can be agreed to by unanimous consent.

For the remainder of the week, Senator Dole has stated that rollcall votes are not likely. However, if a rollcall vote becomes necessary, ample notification will be given to all Members.

It is expected that the Senate will be in session for a brief pro forma session on Thursday and will return on Friday.

Regarding Friday, just a brief update on what is scheduled to go on. The Senate budget negotiators are scheduled to meet on Friday morning. If that meeting is fruitful, there is hope there will be a meeting later in the afternoon or at some point later on in the day with the President. The leader will update the Senate and our colleagues on this when the Senate convenes on Friday morning.

At this point, those are all the announcements that I have.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SMITH. These calendar items have been cleared by both sides, Mr. President, so I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed to executive session to consider the following calendar numbers on today's Executive Calendar: Nos. 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, and 448.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SMITH. I further ask unanimous consent, Mr. President, that the nominations be confirmed en bloc, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc, and that any statements relating to the nominations appear at the appropriate place in the RECORD, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and that the Senate then return to legislative session

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

Nominations

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Eric James Boswell, of California, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be an Assistant Secretary of State.

Anthony Cecil Eden Quainton, of the District of Columbia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Career Minister, to be Director General of the Foreign Service.

Joseph Lane Kirkland, of the District of Columbia, to be an Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Fiftieth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Jeanne Moutoussamy-Ashe, of New York, to be an Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Fiftieth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

